**Global Studies**

Ms. Hopkins

Email: [Ahopkins@reg4.k12.ct.us](mailto:Ahopkins@reg4.ct.us)

Room 608

Extra help: Rm. 608, 7:00-7:30 or 2:30-3:30 (by appointment)

Website (for links, major assignment uploads, and homework calendar): http://mshopkinssocialstudies.wikispaces.com/

**Course Overview**

Global Studies provides students with both the content knowledge and the skills necessary to be citizens of an increasingly global community. Designed in thematic units, this course explores the momentous events of the 19th and 20th Century and how they have shaped the early 21st Century. Analytical skills will be introduced and practiced systematically throughout the course to develop students into critical historical thinkers.  All units will include a variety of ongoing assessments culminating in performance assessments designed to evaluate a student’s understanding of the Essential Questions of each unit.  The course has several themes and overarching questions:

* How do values and beliefs evolve and change over time?
* What are the tensions between the needs of the individual and the needs of the group?  How are political institutions structured to address these tensions?
* What elements contribute to the development of culture?
* How have human rights advanced—and been violated—during this time period?

**Resources**

* Beck, Roger B., et al.  Modern World History:  Patterns of Interaction. Boston: McDougal Littell.
* Various primary source readings, articles, poems, novel excerpts, documentary films, and historical films

Units

**1st Quarter:**

1. Setting the Stage: Turn of the 20th Century (Industrial Revolution, Imperialism, and Nationalism)
2. World War I
3. The Russian Revolution and the Interwar Period
4. World War II and the Holocaust

**2nd Quarter:**

1. The Cold War
2. “Third World” Independence Movements and Decolonization
3. Struggles for Democracy and Human Rights/Model U.N.
4. Special Topics in a Globalized World

**Materials to bring with you to class every day:**

These materials should be used ONLY for Global Studies.

* 3-ring binder with loose-leaf paper
* Journal or spiral notebook
* Planner
* Pen or pencil, highlighter

Additional materials: covered textbook, notecards for vocabulary, binder dividers

**Academic expectations**

All students are expected to participate and be engaged in class activities.  Students will be assigned homework on a nightly basis and will be assessed in a variety of ways, including homework assignments, class discussion, simulations, reflective journals, creative writing, quizzes, tests, and essays. In addition, all students will be required to write one analytical research paper. Writing this paper utilizes 21st century learning skills such as communicating effectively in writing and effectively using information.

**Students will also be expected to cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, determine the central ideas of a primary or secondary source, assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's claims, and compare and contrast treatments of the same topic in several primary and secondary sources (CCSS).**

Each topic discussed in the course will be introduced over a one or two day period. The remaining days of the unit will consist of seminar discussions and debates, online research, simulations, and student presentations designed to facilitate understanding of important concepts.

Student progress will be assessed in a variety of ways. Students will be expected to complete nightly homework assignments (usually in the form of readings and textbook notes) in preparation for class discussion the next day. Since participation is a grade, it is critical that you come to class prepared by reading the night before. While homework completion is important, the focus of evaluation in this course will be on more authentic assessments such as simulations, debates, analytical essays, and research projects. In addition, students are required to complete a research experience project (third quarter) & a five-page thesis-driven research paper (fourth quarter).

**Grading**

3rd Quarter:

Homework and Classwork: 15%

Tests and Projects: 50%

Essays and Quizzes: 25%

Research Paper Experience: 10%

4th Quarter:

Homework and Classwork: 15%

Tests and Projects: 50%

Essays and Quizzes: 25%

Research Paper: 10%

Course:

1st Quarter: 40%

2nd Quarter: 40%

Midterm Exam: 10%

Final Exam: 10%

**Assignments**

Grading scale:

* 1. Check plus (90-100): Exceeds expectations in thoughtfulness and effort
  2. Check (80-89): Meets expectations; may have some problems
  3. Check minus (60-79): Does not meet expectations; assignment may be incomplete, inaccurate, etc. Revisions suggested.
  4. Zero: Missing substantial parts of the assignment, plagiarized, etc.

Participation, effort, and attitude will also be graded on an A-F scale regularly. No late homework will be accepted for full credit unless you get in touch with me ahead of time for an extension.

Attendance is essential to success in this course. If you have to be absent from class, it is your responsibility to see me and collect missed work from the make-up folder. **It is your responsibility to make up all missing work** **and get missing notes from a classmate.** It is also your responsibility to reschedule a make-up exam, which must be completed no later than one week after returning to class to receive credit.

**Extra credit opportunities** will be offered four times a semester upon request.

**General Classroom Rules**

* Student attendance and punctuality is a given (three or more tardies will result in detention, referrals, etc.)
* Treat everyone in class with dignity and respect following the principles of common decency—the ability to work together and have civil discussions is particularly relevant in a history class
* Be in your assigned seat when the bell rings and check the board for homework
* Being present in class is essential; do not leave class unless for emergencies (get all materials from your locker and use the restroom *before* class starts)
* Bring all materials with you to class each day, including all prior handouts, homeworks, etc.
* Follow directions the first time they are given and follow all school rules and procedures

Please sign below to show that you understand and agree to the above course guidelines and expectations:

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian preferred phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Which is the best way to contact you?

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Do you have internet access at home? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a laptop computer? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNED SYLLABUS IS DUE MONDAY, 1/26/14**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS (PLEASE COPY FOR FUTURE REFERENCE):** Homework is posted at the beginning of every week under “Global Studies Assignment Schedule” on my website, <http://mshopkinssocialstudies.wikispaces.com/>. You can also find study guides for each unit, directions and due dates for major projects, and helpful Global Studies links. Thank you for your support in helping your student be successful in Global Studies this semester!